

New Patent Claims

1. A method for visual display unit-based definition and parametrization of a software interface of a software component (5) of an industrial automation system,

- the software interface having at least one interface parameter (6), and
 - the interface parameter (6) being further characterized by at least one editable attribute,

characterized in that

- provision is made for a display window (1) which can be divided vertically or horizontally,
 - the hierarchical structure (4) of the interface parameters (6) of the respective software component (5), which parameters can be selected using a movable cursor (7), being displayed in the first partial window (2) of the display window, and
 - a detail display (4') of the selected interface parameter (6) being displayed in the second partial window (3) of the display window,
 - the detail display (4') including a display of at least one attribute of the selected interface parameter (6) and allowing the definition and parametrization of the attribute.

2. The method as recited in Claim 1, characterized in that the attributes have a name portion (9) and a data portion (10, 11, 12, 13), the name portion (9) being used for identifying the attribute, and the data portion (10, 11, 12, 13) being scrollable horizontally if its graphical representation requires more space than that offered by the display window (1) or the display unit, the graphical representation of the name portion (9) being stationary.

3. The method as recited in Claim 2,
characterized in that the name portion (9) and the data
portion (10, 11, 12, 13) are arranged in vertical columns
arranged side by side or in horizontal rows arranged one below
the other, the data portion (10, 11, 12, 13) possibly being
divided into columns or rows of its own.

4. The method as recited in Claim 3,
characterized in that the sequence of the columns or rows can
be freely selected and, in particular stored by the user.

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